

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 128422  
ORIGIN MCT-01

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 A-01 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00  
DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03  
STE-01 SY-05 SS-15 NSC-05 /063 R

DRAFTED BY M/CT JTJOHNSON:NWH

APPROVED BY M

M/CT: AMB. ISHAM

A - MR. THOMAS

EB/AV - AWHITE

L/SFP - LFIELDS

OPR/ST - PBLACKFORD

A/SY - VDIKEOS

-----070769 210727Z /13

P 210609Z MAY 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 128422

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, PINS

SUBJECT: SECURITY THREATS TO U.S. AIR CARRIERS

REF: A) KUWAIT 2389; B) STATE 78860

1. DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES AMBASSADOR'S HELPFUL COMMENTS  
AND SUGGESTIONS REGARDING MEASURES TO PROTECT AIR TRAVELERS  
AGAINST TERRORIST SABOTAGE OR HIJACKING. THE INSTRUCTION  
WAS BASED ON THE NSC SPECIAL COORDINATION COMMITTEE'S  
(NSC/SCC) DECISION THAT U.S. TRAVELING PUBLIC AND USG  
EMPLOYEES MUST "RECEIVE EFFECTIVE AND EQUIVALENT LEVELS OF  
PROTECTION." THE REDIRECTION OF USG EMPLOYEES TO  
"SAFE CARRIERS" WOULD CONSTITUTE A PREFERENTIAL LEVEL OF  
SECRET

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PAGE 02 STATE 128422

PROTECTION NOT AVAILABLE TO PRIVATE AMERICANS. AS INDICATED  
IN REFTEL B, WARNINGS TO THE PUBLIC AND REDIRECTION OF  
OFFICIAL TRAVEL ARE CONTEMPLATED ONLY IN THOSE RARE CASES  
WHERE HOST GOVERNMENT OR AIR CARRIER SECURITY MEASURES ARE  
FOUND TO BE INADEQUATE.

2. GIVEN THE NEED FOR EQUALITY OF PROTECTION AND THE FAR

REACHING IMPLICATIONS OF A PUBLIC WARNING, EACH CASE WILL BE CONSIDERED ON ITS MERITS BY THE NSC/SCC. SIMILARLY, WARNINGS OR OTHER TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS AFFECTING USG EMPLOYEES WILL BE IMMEDIATELY TRANSMITTED TO INTERESTED

POSTS BY THE DEPARTMENT AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE NSC/SCC.

3. THE DEPARTMENT RECOGNIZES THAT THE FOREGOING GUIDANCE MAY NOT ADDRESS EVERY FORESEEABLE SITUATION AND WE CONTINUE TO RELY UPON THE SOUND JUDGMENT OF CHIEFS OF MISSION IN CONFRONTING EMERGENCY CONDITIONS WITHIN THE AREA OF THEIR JURISDICTION. THUS, WHERE DESPITE ALL PRECAUTIONS, AMERICAN LIVES ARE IN SPECIFIC AND IMMINENT JEOPARDY, THE AMBASSADOR HAS FULL AUTHORITY (PENULTIMATE PARA. REF B.) TO TAKE NECESSARY ACTIONS TO DEAL WITH THE THREAT. IF UNDER THIS AUTHORITY HE SHOULD DETERMINE THAT TEMPORARY ALTERNATE ROUTINGS FOR US PERSONNEL ARE APPROPRIATE, THE DIVERSION TO A FOREIGN CARRIER AS FAR AS THE NEXT CLOSEST INTERCHANGE POINT WOULD BE CONSIDERED UNAVOIDABLE, AND NO PENALTY WOULD BE IMPOSED (6 FAM 134). IN SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES EMPLOYEES SHOULD BE ADVISED TO ANNOTATE VOUCHERS STATING THAT THE OFFICIAL PURPOSE OF THE MISSION REQUIRED GREATER USE OF FOREIGN CARRIERS. VANCE

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PAGE 01 STATE 128422  
ORIGIN MCT-01

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12  
NEA-11 SIG-03 MMO-01 /072 R

66011

DRAFTED BY:M/CT:JTJOHNSON

APPROVED BY:M/CT:JEKARKASHIAN

-----084164 231124Z /15

R 230515Z MAY 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS

S E C R E T STATE 128422

INFORM CONSULS

FOL STATE 128422 SENT ACTION MAY 21, 1978 REPEATED TO YOU  
QUOTE

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, PINS

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PAGE 02 STATE 128422

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STATING THAT THE OFFICIAL PURPOSE OF THE MISSION REQUIRED  
GREATER USE OF FOREIGN CARRIERS. VANCE UNQUOTE VANCE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SECURITY, CIVIL AVIATION, THREATS, TERRORISTS, ANTIHIJACKING PROCEDURES  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**TAGS:** EAIR, PINS, US  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014